



Description of Meeting:	NTTG Planning Committee
Meeting Date:	December 11, 2013
Meeting Notes Prepared By:	Amy Wachsnicht
Approved for Posting:	April 9, 2014

Agenda:

- a) Approval of Past Meeting Notes
 - i. October 9, 2013 Planning Meeting Notes
 - ii. November 6, 2013 Joint Planning & Cost Allocation Meeting Notes
 - iii. November 20, 2013 Joint Planning & Cost Allocation Meeting Notes
- b) Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- c) Order 890 Update
- d) 2014-2015 Planning Cycle Update
 - i. Q8 Prequalification Update
 - ii. Q1 2014 Update
 - iii. January 23, 2014 Public Stakeholder Meeting
 - iv. Interregional Coordination
 - v. New Charter Requirements
- e) U.S.E Study Option Discussion
- f) Round Table/Other Business

Discussions & Decisions:

Decision: Approval of Past Meeting Notes

- October 9, 2013 Planning Committee Meeting Notes
 - Approved for posting
- November 6, 2013 Joint Planning & Cost Allocation Meeting Notes
 - Approved for posting
- November 20, 2013 Joint Planning & Cost Allocation Meeting Notes
 - Approved for posting with two minor edits were suggested – Page 2 Item 6 change “debit” to “debt”

Decision: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- John Leland nominated Dave Angell as the Chair.
 - Dave Angell accepted the nomination.
 - No other nominations were suggested.
 - **Dave Angell was unanimously voted by the Planning Committee members as the Chair.**
 - Dave Angell abstained his vote.
- John Leland nominated Craig Quist as the Vice-Chair.
 - Craig Quist accepted the nomination.
 - No other nominations were suggested.
 - **Craig Quist was unanimously voted by the Planning Committee members as the Vice-Chair.**
 - Craig Quist - abstained his vote.

Discussion: Order 890 Update

- The final 2012-2013 NTTG Biennial Regional Transmission Plan Report has been posted on the NTTG website.
- John Leland thanked all the members for their work in getting the report completed.
- This was the third regional transmission plan developed by NTTG.
 - The next report will be the first report of the Order No. 1000 process.



- A letter, put together by the Co-Chairs of the NTTG Steering Committee will accompany the report as well as a summary of the report.
- The summary is still being finished and will be distributed to state officials, commissions, neighboring regional entities and others before the end of December.
- Dave Angell thanked Gil Coulam and the Technical Workgroup for all of their hard work and in pulling the report together.

Discussion: 2014-2015 Planning Cycle Update

- Q8 Prequalification Update
 - The Project Sponsor Pre-qualification process outlined in the NTTG Transmission Providers Regional September 16, 2013 Order 1000 filing provides for the month of October in the prior regional planning cycle for sponsor qualification data to be submitted to NTTG. However, on October 17, 2013 FERC ruled requiring NTTG transmission providers to implement the Order 1000 process as filed. Subsequently, NTTG opened its window on October 22nd.
 - Had one entity submit sponsor qualification data, which was LS Power.
 - It was determined that they met the requirements.
- Q1 2014 Update
 - Data submission opens on January 1, 2014.
 - Data on the transmission that supplies LSE LOE needs to be submitted before January 31st. This was designed to correspond with the data gathering window for WECC's L&R.
 - The January 31st deadline is also for NTTG to work with the other transmission planning entities so that NTTG can coordinate and share information with them with the intention of holding an interregional meeting in late February.
 - The interregional meeting is not an Order 1000 meeting as none of the entities have received an order on Interregional Order 1000.
 - The Economic Study Request window opens January 1, 2014 and closes March 30, 2014.
 - Project data for any project being proposed into NTTG is due by March 31, 2014.
- Q2 2014
 - NTTG will be evaluating any Economic Study Requests submitted to see which ones can be clustered.
 - As a reminder NTTG will be doing only two Economic Study Requests per two year biennial planning cycle.
 - In Q2 NTTG will develop the study plan from all the information received in Q1.
 - The technical workgroup will also be formed and ready to start working with the data.
- Q3 2014
 - During Q3, NTTG will process both the Economic Study Request and Regional Transmission Plan studies as per Order 1000.
 - Information and details on the Order 1000 process can be found in each Transmission Provider's Attachment K.
- January 23, 2014 Public Stakeholder Meeting
 - This meeting will be held in Portland, OR. The facility details are still being worked out.
 - There is a desire to have the meeting before the January 31st deadline so that stakeholders are aware of the process and deadlines for Q1 & Q2.
 - It was noted that the January 23rd date overlaps the WECC TSS meeting.
 - **After discussion the Stakeholder meeting was moved to the afternoon of January 21st.**
- New Charter Requirements
 - NTTG is now operating under the new charters and are posted on the NTTG website.



- These charters were approved in October with the submissions of NTTG's FERC filings for Order 1000.
- Economic Study Request (ESR) Window Additional Information
 - John Leland wanted to recognize there are also a WECC/TEPPC window that ends on January 31st.
 - Any entity looking at a project that is not in the NTTG footprint and is interregional needs to be submitted to TEPPC.
 - Also on the local side, at NorthWestern the window is at the end of February.
 - If an entity is planning on submitting an ESR, it is important look at their local transmission provider's Attachment K for information regarding the submittal windows.

Discussion: USE Study Option Discussion

- Gordon Comegy walked through USE's proposal of Combining NTTG and ColumbiaGrid's studies to identify transmission deficiencies.
- The reason for the proposal, was in looking at Order 1000, the continuing requirements for interregional coordination and the physical layout of NTTG and ColumbiaGrid's regions there could be benefits in having a third party entity preform the planning studies jointly for the two regions. By doing this it could improve the efficiency of the studies that otherwise would be performed separately.
 - The idea would not be to change the processes of NTTG or ColumbiaGrid, but slightly modify so that the processes could be aligned in order for the studies to be done jointly.
- Question: Craig Quist – Doesn't this presume to get ourselves in a condition where ColumbiaGrid takes over the lion share of the analysis versus NTTG controlling that with coordination between the two?
 - Answer: Gordon Comegy – It would have a third party carrying out that study.
 - Comment: Peter Mackin – It is not changing the processes of NTTG and ColumbiaGrid. It is more to say you will probably find efficiencies and coordination will occur than if an independent party does the studies.
 - The idea is to get a more full set of studies over the region instead of having two separate studies.
- Comment: Jamie Austin – Order 1000 does not require interregional cooperation studies, it has each region doing their own studies. When it comes to IRP there is no process in place to call for what you are proposing. I can see consistencies and cooperation, but each region would be preforming their own studies.
 - Answer: Gordon Comegy – This proposal does not require a common plan it only proposes a common study assessment and each region will go off and finish their plans independently.
- Comment: Fred Heutte – ColumbiaGrid started up a new modeling group and seems to be beefing up their in house staff to do the studies. Their approach they take on planning maybe different than NTTG.
 - It does seem to be a good idea to have some exchange between NTTG & ColumbiaGrid to find a way to align the studies better, but I wondering if a third party is the right way to go.
 - For interregional one thing that should be discussed is doing a joint planning exercise to see what new transmission to meet the needs of the regions more efficiently, but that would be just a discussion at this time.
- After further discussion, John Leland noted that NTTG was in the beginning stages of the planning cycle and that this opportunity may not be timely for this planning cycle.
- Peter Mackin indicated that this proposal has been presented to some members of ColumbiaGrid but has not been presented to ColumbiaGrid management. They were looking for feedback from NTTG members first.



- USE understands that the regions are in the beginning stages of their cycles and will take the feedback received from NTTG members to discuss internally and decide what next steps should be taken.

Discussion: Round Table/Other Business

- There was none.

Assignments:

Item #	Assignment	Owner	Target Date	Status
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Next Meeting: The next Northern Tier Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2014 at 1PM Pacific.

- Voice Conference Mtg. **503-813-5252** (toll free #855-499-5252)
- Conference ID **1254249**

Attendees:

<u>NTTG Planning Committee Member Representatives</u>		
Membership Class 1		
Dave Angell, Vice Chair, Idaho Power	Don Johnson, Portland General	Jim Tucker, Deseret
Daniel Baye, Black Hills Power	John Leland, Chair, NorthWestern	Scott Waples, Avista Corp
Bill Hosie, TransCanada	Craig Quist, PacifiCorp	
Membership Class 2		
Marshall Empey, UAMPS	Dan Wheeler, Gaelectric	
Membership Class 3		
Johanna Bell, ID PUC	Jerry Maio, UT PSC	David Walker, WY PSC
David Lofftus, MT PSC	Scott Pugard, ID OFC Energy Resources	
<u>Other NTTG Members & Guests</u>		
Jamie Austin, PacifiCorp	Gil Coulam, NTTG	Peter Mackin, USE
Rich Bayless, NTTG	Pam Greensky, NTTG	Nathan Powell, PacifiCorp
George Culbertson, Tetrattech	Sharon Helms, NTTG	Amy Wachsnicht, NTTG
Mitch Colburn, Idaho Power	Fred Heutte, NVEC	
Gordon Comegy, USE	Chelsea Loomis, NorthWestern	